



# THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE · NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 30, 1978

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650-6500*

Dr. Thomas C. Chalmers  
President and Dean  
The Mount Sinai Medical Center  
One Gustave Levy Place  
New York, New York 10029

Dear Dr. Chalmers:

Thank you for your letter of June 20th. I was pleased indeed to learn of the good news of the endowment of the Lita Annenberg Hazen Fellowship Award. I fully agree with your characterization of the disturbing trends in clinical research in the current climate and the critical importance of providing measures to reverse that trend. I would re-echo, perhaps even more strongly, some of the arguments that you wrote concerning the limited effectiveness of cash prizes. On the other hand, I have unreserved enthusiasm about the public recognition that should be given to excellent clinical research and to the fellowship mechanism that you have devised that accomplishes that purpose while at the same time providing the material basis for re-enforcing the career commitments of a young person. I wish you well indeed.

As to my own participation on the Awards Committee, I cannot but take note of the excellence of the group in whose company you would place me, as well as the very good purpose that it would serve. However, I hope that you can have some understanding for the stresses on my time during this interval of transition and that you will permit me to abjure during the interval of my settling in at The Rockefeller University.

Yours sincerely,

*Joshua Lederberg*  
Joshua Lederberg

bcc: Dr. Dorothy Krieger